

Remarks

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 4 and 5, canceled claims 3 and 6-9, and added claim 10. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 10 are currently pending. Support for these amendments can be found at pages 202-205, 208-210 and 212-213 of the specification. Specifically, examples 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 9 and 10 show the biological activity of the claimed compound. Support for new claim 10 can be found at page 12, lines 3 to 13. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

Section 112, First Paragraph, Rejections

Claims 2-5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claims 2, 4 and 5 and the cancellation of claims 3 and 7-9 obviate the rejection. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Section 112, Second Paragraph, Rejections

Claims 2-5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claims 2, 4 and 5 and the cancellation of claims 3 and 7-9 obviate the rejection. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Gregson et al., Chem. Commun. The Office Action asserts that Gregson teaches the compounds, compositions and method of use of the compounds of formula II where R₆ is hydrogen, R₇ is methoxy, R₈ forms the dimer through the bridge —O—(CH₂)₃—O—, R₉ is hydrogen and R'₂ is CH₂. Applicants claim priority to GB 9818733.9, which was filed August 27, 1998. Gregson

et al. was published May 7, 1999, after the filing date of the priority document. Therefore, Gregson et al. is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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